# United States Patent [19]

## Green et al.

[54] **METHODS OF MONITORING THE STATUS OF AN APPLICATION PROGRAM**

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### Related U.S. Application Data

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[51] Int. Cl.$^5$ ............................................. G06F 15/62
[52] U.S. Cl. ..................................... 395/159; 395/650
[58] Field of Search ............................... 395/144–149, 395/155–161, 650

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

An application or terminal emulation program, which is being executed on an information processing system, is represented by the display of a first icon on a display device. If during the execution of the application or terminal emulation program, a virtual display buffer associated with the application program, is updated, a second icon is displayed on the display device to indicate to a user of the system that a change in the status of the program has occurred.

6 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets